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California Polytechnic State University

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## **Voters Approve Proposition Giving Cal Poly \$37 Million to Build Classrooms**

SAN LUIS OBISPO -- California voters said yes to Proposition 47 by a solid margin Nov. 5, approving a \$13 billion school building bond that will give Cal Poly more than \$37 million.

Statewide, Proposition 47 received 57.5 percent of the vote. In San Luis Obispo County, where the bond would fund classroom building projects at Cuesta College and K-12 schools in addition to Cal Poly, the measure passed with 52 percent of the vote.

Thanks to voter approval, Cal Poly will receive some \$37.3 million over the next two years.

The money will pay for construction of a new engineering building, fill it with high-tech equipment, and provide the university with money to design a new architecture building and prepare plans to remodel a 40-year-old engineering and architecture building.

"Even in a difficult economy, California voters clearly recognized that an investment in education is a sound investment," said Cal Poly President Warren J. Baker. "Their support will allow Cal Poly to tear down outdated structures to make room for modern facilities designed and equipped to produce tomorrow's engineers and architects. Thanks to their support, the university will be able to further strengthen its advantage as one of the nation's top public undergraduate universities."

The new Engineering IV Building, made possible by Proposition 47, will house the university's aeronautical, mechanical, civil, environmental, industrial and manufacturing engineering programs.

It will allow teachers and students to move out of corrugated metal buildings on the north side of campus that are 40 to 50 years old. They were originally built to house the agricultural welding and related farm shops.

"Passage of Proposition 47 ensures that Cal Poly's College of Engineering will have the facilities we need to continue offering one of the nation's very best engineering and computer science programs," said College of Engineering Dean Peter Y. Lee.

The new engineering facilities and equipment brought by Proposition 47 funding, Lee said, "will create a lab-centered, state-of-the-art learning environment for the future. "We couldn't be more delighted."

The 112,000 square-foot Engineering IV Building will rise northwest of Kennedy Library, near two existing engineering buildings and one currently under construction - concentrating much of the university's engineering programs in one area.

New high-tech equipment for the Engineering IV Building will include lasers for mapping, visualization, and velocity measurement in the wind and water tunnel laboratories; scanning electron and optical microscopes for the materials engineering laboratories; and helicopter controls and gyroscope controls test systems for the aeronautical engineering control laboratories.

Cal Poly's architecture program will also benefit from Proposition 47. The university will receive money to design, through the schematic drawing stage, a new multi-story building in the heart of campus for the College of Architecture and Environmental Design. The college educates one in five California architects.

The new architecture building will eventually house the college's construction management and architecture programs and will provide added lecture space. Plans call for it to be built on the site of the existing Heating and Air Conditioning facility in the campus core. That complex is a conglomeration of small buildings that are 40 to 60 years old.

Finally, Proposition 47 will give Cal Poly funding to prepare plans for remodeling and renovating the 40-year-old Engineering West Building, which houses architecture laboratories and offices, engineering laboratories, and the industrial technology program. The 165,000 square-foot remodel would improve lighting, wiring and classroom and lab space.

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